

# National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

Incorporated

BRUCE B. ELLSWORTH, *President*  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
8 Old Suncook Road, Building No. 1  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-7319

JOLYNN BARRY BUTLER, *First Vice President*  
Ohio Public Utilities Commission

JIM SULLIVAN, *Second Vice President*  
Alabama Public Service Commission



MARGARET A. WELSH  
*Executive Director*

GAILE ARGIRO  
*Treasurer*

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 4, 1997

William Caton  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20544

RECEIVED  
APR 4 1997  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

RE: EX PARTE FILING

**In the Matter of Changes to the Board of Directors of  
the National Exchange Carrier Association, CC Docket  
97-21**

**In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal  
Service, CC Docket 96-45**

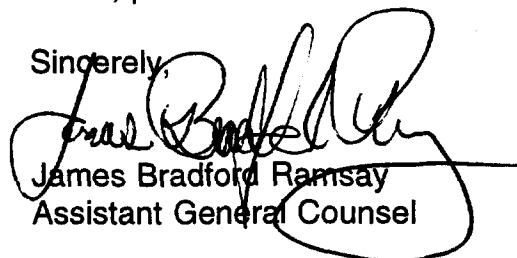
Dear Mr. Caton:

Today, I hand-delivered copies of the attached correspondence to the office of each FCC Commissioner and to the offices of Gina Keeney, Kathy Levitz, Mary Beth Richards, and Richard Metzger of the FCC Common Carrier Bureau.

In accordance with the FCC's rules of practice and procedure, I am filing two copies of each letter in the dockets listed above.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 202.898.2207.

Sincerely,

  
James Bradford Ramsay  
Assistant General Counsel

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**April 4, 1997**

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20544

**RE: State Representation on**

- (a) the Federal Advisory Council Created to Designate and Supervise a Universal Service Fund Administrator, and**
- (b) the Board of Directors of Both the Interim and Permanent Universal Fund Administrator**

Dear Chairman Hundt:

In Sections 254 and 214 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress acknowledged the need for broad State commission input into the implementation of its revised universal service policy. We appreciate the FCC's continued recognition of the important role States must play in implementing these and other sections of the Act.

Paragraphs 829 - 830 of the Universal Service Joint Board's Recommended Decision (RD) suggests the FCC create, pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, a universal service Federal Advisory Council to ". . .select, oversee, and provide guidance to. . ." any permanent neutral third party administrator. {Emphasis Added} The RD also suggests the Federal Advisory Council advise the interim administrator.

NARUC agrees with the RD's recommendation that the Federal Advisory Council must include State utility commission representatives. We also agree the Federal Advisory Council should play an important supervisory function somewhat like the North American Numbering Council.

**The Honorable Reed Hundt**

**April 4, 1997**

**Page Two**

Because of the critical importance of the Council's supervisory duties to State interests, we respectfully request that you include at least three State Commission positions on the Federal Advisory Council.

The Board of Directors of the entity chosen on either an interim or permanent basis to administer the universal service fund will also play a critical and influential role in the development of procedures for the collection and distribution of funds among the States. Accordingly, NARUC also respectfully requests that two State commissioners be included on the Board of Directors of both the interim and permanent administrator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bruce B. Ellsworth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Bruce B. Ellsworth  
NARUC President

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Margaret A. Welsh". The signature is cursive and elegant, with the last name being the most prominent.

Margaret A. Welsh  
NARUC Executive Director

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**GAILE ARGIRO**  
*Treasurer*

**April 4, 1997**

The Honorable Susan Ness  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20544

**RE: State Representation on**

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**The Honorable Susan Ness**  
**April 4, 1997**  
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Bruce B. Ellsworth  
NARUC President



Margaret A. Welsh  
NARUC Executive Director

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MARGARET A. WELSH  
*Executive Director*

GAILE ARGIRO  
*Treasurer*

April 4, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle Chong  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20544

**RE: State Representation on**

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**The Honorable Rachelle Chong**  
**April 4, 1997**  
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NARUC President



Margaret A. Welsh  
NARUC Executive Director

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**April 4, 1997**

The Honorable James Quello  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20544

**RE: State Representation on**

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**The Honorable James Quello**  
**April 4, 1997 Correspondence**  
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Bruce B. Ellsworth  
NARUC President

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Margaret A. Welsh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, flowing initial "M" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Margaret A. Welsh  
NARUC Executive Director